

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12

EB-08 TRSE-00 COME-00 MCE-00 /133 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9167

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0200

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC, RH

SUBJECT: UNSC SANCTIONS COMMITTEE NOTE:

CESSNA USE BY RHODESIA AIR FORCE

1. MISSION HAS RECEIVED OFFICIAL REQUEST BY SYG FOR US INVESTIGATION OF POSSIBLE US SANCTIONS VIOLATION IN THE ALLEGED USE OF CESSNA AIRCRAFT BY THE RHODESIAN AIR FORCE. DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE REQUESTED.

2. TEXT OF NOTE FOLLOWS: QUOTE PO 230 SORH (1-21)
CASE NO. INGO-22

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND, AT THE REQUEST OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN PURSUANCE OF RESOLUTION 253 (1968) CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA, HAS THE HONOUR TO COMMUNICATE TO HIM THE FOLLOWING:

THE COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM A STAFF MEMBER OF A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES, THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SOCIETY, ACCORDING TO WHICH SOUTHERN RHODESIA ACQUIRED, IN MID-1976, 20 CESSNA 337 (MILIROLE)"
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AIRCRAFT MADE IN FRANCE, FOR USE BY THE AIR FORCE OF THE ILLEGAL REGIME. THAT INFORMATION WAS COMMUNICATED IN A LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, THE RELEVANT PORTION OF WHICH IS REPRODUCED BELOW:

" MILIVNEWS, A PRIVATE INTELLIGENCE NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY AVIATION ADVISORY SERVICE OF ENGLAND, AND AVAILABLE BY SUBSCRIPTION, REPORTED IN THEIR JUNE 1977 ISSUE THAT

THE RHODESIAN AIR FORCE HAS RECEIVED 20 CESSNA F337 'MILIROLE' AIRCRAFT. THE NEWSLETTER STATES THAT THE AIRCRAFT WERE PRODUCED IN FRANCE UNDER CESSNA LICENSE AND ARRIVED IN RHODESIA BY CIRCUITOUS ROUTES IN MID-1976 WHEN THEY WERE OSTENSIBLY ORDERED BY A "SPANISH FISING COMPANY" IN THE CANARY ISLANDS. THE NEWSLETTER FURTHER STATES THAT THE AIRPLANES WERE FITTED WITH UNDERWING ARMAMENT RACKS AND ARE KNOWN IN RHODESIA AS THE 'LYNX'.

"I CABLED TONY AVIRGAN, A FREELANCE JOURNALIST IN DAR ES SALAAM, FOR INFORMATION ON THE SALE OF CESSNA 337 AIRCRAFT TO THE RHODESIAN AIR FORCE. HE REPLIED BY CABLE: 'CESSNAS HAVE DEFINITELY BEEN USED AS SPOTTER PLANES OVER MOZAMBIQUE'. HE INDICATED THAT HE HAD TAKEN PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PLANE THAT WAS SHOT DOWN, AND THAT THE PHOTOGRAPHS ARE ON FILE WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES PICTURE SERVICE.

". ACCORDING TO JANE'S ALL THE WORLDS AIRCRAFT, THE FRENCH PRODUCER OF THE AIRPLANE, REIMS AVIATION, IS 49 PERCENT OWNED BY CESSNA AND THE 'PRIMARY STRUCTURES' OF THE 337 AIRCRAFT ARE MADE IN THE UNITED STATES AND THEN SHIPPED TO FRANCE. THE CONTINENTAL ENGINES OF THE 337 AIRCRAFT ARE ALSO AMERICAN-DESIGNED AND ARE PRODUCED BY ROLLS ROYCE IN ENGLAND UNDER LICENSE FROM TELEDYNE, ANOTHER AMERICAN COMPANY, ACCORDING TO JANE'S."

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THE COMMITTEE RECEIVED THE ABOVE MENTIONED WITH GRAVE CONCERN, NOTING THAT IF THE INFORMATION SHOULD BE CONFIRMED, THE TRANSACTION WOULD AMOUNT TO A SERIOUS BREAKDOWN IN THE APPLICATION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL MANDATORY SANCTIONS AGAINST THE ILLEGAL REGIME IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA. IT THEREFORE DECIDED THAT THE INFORMATION SHOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S GOVERNMENT AS A MATTER OF URGENCY WITH A REQUEST FOR THOROUGH INVESTIGATIONS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES, WITH A VIEW TO ESTABLISHING THE FACTS OF THE MATTER.

SHOULD THE INFORMATION BE CONFIRMED, THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE INTERESTED TO KNOW OF ANY ASSURANCES SECURED BY HIS EXCELLENCY'S GOVERNMENT THAT COMPANIES ABROAD, WHOLLY OR PARTLY OWNED BY, OR CARRYING FRANCHISES FROM UNITED STATES COMPANIES, DO NOT ENGAGE IN SANCTIONS VIOLATING ACTIVITIES. THE COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE RECEIVING INFORMATION ON THE MEASURES CONTEMPLATED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO REDRESS THE SITUATION IN THE PRESENT CASE AND TO ENSURE THAT SUCH INCIDENTS DO NOT RECUR.

THE COMMITTEE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT IT MIGHT RECEIVE

THE COMMENTS OF HIS EXCELLENCY'S GOVERNMENT ON THE FOREGOING
AT THE EARLIEST CONVENIENCE, IF POSSIBLE WITHIN A MONTH.
19 JANUARY 1978 UNQUOTE
YOUNG

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